

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 PRS-01 H-03 PCH-04

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 SS-15 USIA-15 OMB-01 /134 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS:CMH

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APPROVED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS

S/PRS - MR. BRAY

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

AF/P - MR. RUSSELL

H - MISS FOLGER

EUR/P - MR. SAVAGE

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R 232008Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

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USINT BAGHDAD BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY SANAA BY POUCH

UNCLAS STATE 144285

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JULY 23, 1973:

QUOTE: Q. MR. SADAT SAID IN A SPEECH IN CAIRO THAT THE UNITED STATES IS THE -- QUOTE -- "BIGGEST GANGSTER" IN THE WORLD.

WOULD YOU CARE TO COMMENT ON THIS RATHER PECULIAR REMARK?

A. THE DEPARTMENT HASN'T MADE A DETAILED STUDY ON HIS VARIOUS COMMENTS. HE MADE A NUMBER OF COMMENTS, I UNDERSTAND.

IN TERMS OF LEAVING ASIDE THAT PARTICULAR LANGUAGE BUT WITH RESPECT SPECIFICALLY TO OUR APPROACH AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL, I WOULD ONLY SAY THAT WE DON'T BELIEVE THAT HIS CHARACTERIZATION IS ACCURATE OR REFLECTS OUR POSITION AND THAT WE, FOR OUR PART, HAVE APPROACHED THE CONSULTATIONS AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN AN OPEN-MINDED WAY.

Q. DOES THE DEPARTMENT KNOW WHAT TYPE OF RESOLUTION, IF THERE IS GOING TO BE ONE, THAT IS GOING TO COME UP AND WHEN IT'S GOING TO BE OFFERED TO THE COUNCIL?

A. NO. I DON'T HAVE HERE A RECORD OF HOW THE CONSULTATIONS ARE PROCEEDING IN NEW YORK AND WHAT SHAPE THEY MIGHT ACTUALLY TAKE. AND I DON'T THINK I, YOU KNOW, WOULD REALLY GET INTO THAT WHILE THE CONSULTATION PROCESS IS UNDER WAY.

Q. I TAKE IT THAT AMB SCALIS ORIGINAL POSITION STILL UNCLASSIFIED

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STANDS. HE SAID, WHEN THE SECURITY COUNCIL MET THE FIRST TIME, ABOUT SIX WEEKS AGO, THAT HE WOULD VETO ANY RESOLUTION WHICH CHANGES THE ORIGINAL 242 RESOLUTION. IS THIS CORRECT -- THAT WE ARE STANDING ON THIS RESOLUTION?

A. IT'S ACCURATE TO SAY THAT WE CONSIDER RESOLUTION 242 -- WE CONSIDER THAT RESOLUTION BASICALLY AS THE POSITION, OR WHAT IS REFLECTIVE OF WHAT WE WANT OUT OF THE

SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE.

Q. WAS THERE ANY CONSULTATION ABOUT A REINTERPRETATION OF 242?

A. I DON'T REALLY WANT TO GET IN -- FROM HERE I DON'T THINK IT'S A GOOD POSITION TO BE IN, IN THIS FORUM, TO TALK ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS UP IN NEW YORK.

Q. THERE WAS A REPORT IN THE CAIRO RADIO SAYING THAT EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SAYYAT MET MR. SCALI ON THE 19TH OF JULY AND MR. SCALI GAVE HIM A MESSAGE FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SAYING THAT THE U.S. DOESN'T WANT AT ALL A RE-CONVENING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE U.S. WILL BE HAPPY TO REACH A CONSENSUS OUTSIDE THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND ALSO TO -- ACCORDING TO CAIRO RADIO, THE U.S. WILL VETO, WITHOUT ANY HESITATION, EVERY RESOLUTION WHICH WILL REMIND THEM OF THE JARRING MEMORANDUM OF FEB 1971 OR ANY OTHER RESOLUTION WHICH WILL MENTION THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS. WOULD YOU CARE TO COMMENT ABOUT IT?

A. NO. AGAIN, I JUST DON'T WANT TO COMMENT ON THE DETAILS OF OUR CONSULTATION PROCESS UP IN NEW YORK.

Q. IS-THE U.S. ENGAGED IN ANY EFFORT TO RELIEVE THE HIJACKED PLANE IN DUBAI?

A. WELL, BASICALLY, I WOULD CHARACTERIZE OUR POSITION AS THAT OF FOLLOWING THIS PARTICULAR HIJACKING. WE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING IT OVER THE COURSE OF THE WEEKEND. BUT ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, I MIGHT JUST ADD THAT WE'RE NOT AWARE OF ANY AMERICAN CITIZENS BEING ABOARD THE PLANE. BUT I WOULD JUST PREFER TO LEAVE IT RIGHT THERE. ROGER

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